

**Polk County
Voluntary Public School Choice (VPSC)
Grant**

**Performance Report
January 2010**

(Performance October through December 2009)

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Up-to-Date Executive Summary Providing Status of Progress toward Program Goals, Activities and Timelines**Overview**

Polk County's VPSC grant proposal lists two goals:

- Goal 1 focuses on a plan to **(a)** develop and refine meaningful district choice options and **(b)** identify and develop solutions to choice barriers.
- Goal 2 addresses this partnership's intent to **(a)** create a model for the development and implementation of career academies and **(b)** expand the number of career academies in the coalition districts.

The focus of grant activities is stated in the project abstract of the grant proposal: *This project will create and maintain a powerful coalition of school districts which will share resources and best practices to intensely focus on increasing choice options for all students with an emphasis on low performing, disengaged and disenfranchised secondary school students. This project includes primary partnerships with Polk, Osceola and Hillsborough Counties as well as expanded partnerships to also include Indian River, Lake, Manatee, Orange, Pasco and Sumter Counties.*

The Polk County grant has emphasized training and the sharing of best practices. In the year three budget, approximately 44% of funds will be used to support training activities.

Since beginning grant activities in the summer of 2008, Polk County has correlated its goals and outcomes to Florida's Performance Measures. At the end of each quarter, the Polk County consortium reports performance in relation to every outcome that should have been met to date based on the proposal timeline. **Tables 2, 3, and 4** provide an update of performance from beginning of grant through the end of December 2009. Grant outcomes have been met to date.

A Summary of Goal-Related Performance

Polk County has reported some key activities and accomplishments in relation to each of the two goals.

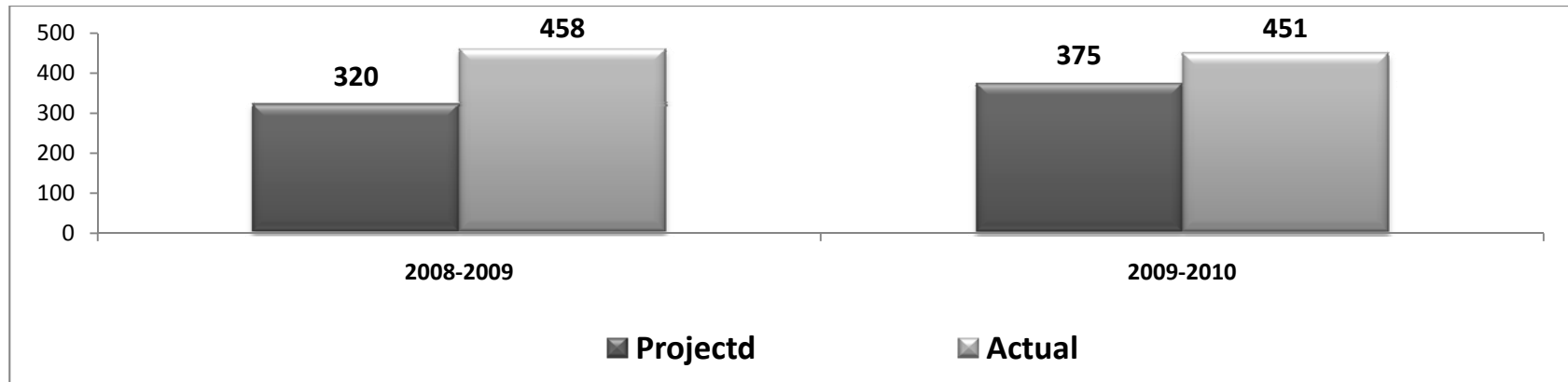
- Goal 1 addresses all inter- and intra-district choice options other than career academies. To date, inter-district agreements are in place to allow students to transfer between Polk and Osceola and between Polk and Hillsborough Counties to access choice. These are the three primary grant partners. There are also formal inter-district agreements with Osceola County to take Polk students by way of Four Corners and New Dimensions charter schools.

The number of Polk County students going from Polk to Osceola County to access Four Corners and New Dimensions exceeded expectations in 2008-2009 and have done so to date for 2009-2010.

- The VPSC Year-Two End-of-Year Report states that a total of 458 Polk County students accessed an inter-district transfer option to attend Four Corners Charter School or New Dimensions High School in Osceola County. The grant narrative predicted that a total of 320 students would make that choice. The actual number is 43% higher than what was expected.
- Polk County has projected that a total of 375 students will go from Polk County to Osceola County to attend these two schools during 2009-2010. During this reporting quarter, a total of 451 did so. That number is 20% higher than anticipated and only covers the first half of the school year.

Figure 1 shows the anticipated versus actual number of students transferring from Polk County to either Four Corners or New Dimensions during 2008-2009 and the number who have done so as of December 2009 for the 2009-2010 school year.

Figure 1: Projected vs. Actual Number of Students accessing Inter-District Choice to attend Four Corners and New Dimensions



Note that actual for 2009-2010 is only through December 2009.

Other students accessing inter-district choice in the fall of 2009 to move between Osceola and Polk Counties include 13 transferring from Osceola to Polk and 266 transferring from Polk to Osceola. Additionally, 27 students used inter-district choice option to move from Hillsborough to Polk County, and 162 went from Polk to Hillsborough.

A needs assessment initiated in the Polk VPSC project in July 2008 asked consortium districts to rank barriers to choice. Transportation was a major barrier. A key accomplishment of this grant has been the development of the transportation plan created for students going from Polk County to Four Corners Charter School in Osceola County. Four Corners will begin transportation as of the second semester of the 2009-2010 school year. The school will run two bus routes that fill the bus both times. All students transported on the bus are Polk County students attending the charter school through an inter-district agreement. The bus holds 77 students; therefore, approximately 150 students will be transported each day. The students on the first bus route are the furthest from the school and will participate in a before-school program that offers breakfast and supervision by a school staff member. The students on the second bus route are closer to the school and will arrive before school begins. Three hundred eighty-seven students from Polk County exercised inter-district choice in order to attend Four Corners during this reporting quarter.

Another barrier to choice identified by consortium partners is the lack of effective marketing strategies. Brochure templates are being developed with input from the nine partnering districts and will be disseminated to all partners as they are finalized.

Additional detail about the results of the needs assessment and strategies to overcome barriers to choice has been summarized and reported in the VPSC Year-Two End-of-Year Report. The report specifies that a group of district representatives defined a choice as any student not attending his or her zoned school.

In Polk County, South McKeel Academy, a charter school, has acted as a high-performing choice option for students. During the first quarter of year-three grant activities, 318 new student seats have been reported at South McKeel and are directly impacted by the PMI and charter renewal training that occurred through the grant. Additionally, Lawton Chiles Middle School teachers participated in grant-sponsored training and curriculum development for implementing an IB MYP (middle years program). During this reporting period, 652 students at this magnet school benefited from the school's rigorous academic program.

- Goal 2 focuses on creating a model for the development and implementation of high school and middle school career academies. To date, consortium personnel have focused most activities on high school career academies and have achieved three key accomplishments:
 - A June 2009 VPSC Conference was used to initiate the discussion required to create a career academy implementation plan. Thirty-six participants from five consortium districts participated.
 - During the summer and fall of 2009, Polk County district and school personnel established 16 concepts to be evidenced in all its high school career academies. Hillsborough representatives participated in a work session with Polk County school representatives in which the list of concepts was finalized.
 - During the fall of 2009, the project's external evaluator was part of a team that visited eight Polk County high school career academies and identified best practices tied to each of the academy concepts. Polk County district office staff members have identified additional best practices in other academies.

In order to strengthen academy implementation in Polk County academies and to share best practices with consortium districts, additional training events have been scheduled for the winter and spring of 2010:

- Polk County is hosting its first career academy conference for Polk County school representatives in February 2010. Polk County academy teachers and school-based administrators will share strategies for implementing the 16 career academy concepts. Each career academy will also create a strategic plan to strengthen concept implementation at each site. Both Hillsborough and Osceola Counties have been invited to send representatives to this conference. This conference is not funded through VPSC but demonstrates collaboration among districts, departments and programs with regard to shared goals.
- Both the 16 concepts from the February training addressed in the previous bullet and the results of the career academy conference will be shared with consortium representatives at the June 2010 VPSC Conference.

Since grant activities began, career academies have been officially listed by Polk County Schools as choice programs. In the spring of 2010, all career academies will utilize an online application process to allow students from throughout the district and from neighboring districts to apply for admission. The results of the enrollment process will be shared with consortium representatives in the June 2010 conference.

Finally, an evaluation process has been initiated to assess the effectiveness of each Polk County high school career academy based on the degree to which it implements all 16 academy concepts; the extent to which it offers enrollment to a wide-range of students (including individuals pursuing careers non-traditional for their gender); and the overall performance of academy students with a focus on FCAT Reading and Math, graduation rates of academy enrollees, completion of industry certification, and enrollment of academy graduates in postsecondary education. The Workforce Education Department will be responsible for coordinating the academy evaluation process.

Polk County data process personnel are developing automated reports to document academy performance. Those reports along with the evaluation model will be shared with consortium personnel as soon as they are finalized.

Since grant activities began, enrollment in Polk County high school career academies has increased from **3,448** as reported in the year-one VPSC report to a current total of **4,791**. That is an increase of **1,343** or **39%** over slightly more than one year.

Polk County has established one middle school academy. It is a medical academy at Bartow Middle School and acts as a feeder academy for the Bartow High School Medical Academy. Another middle school academy with a focus on technology is being planned for implementation at Lakeland Highlands Middle School. That academy will feed to the Kathleen High School Aerospace Academy. Representatives from both of these middle schools have been invited to the February 2010 conference.

Formal development of the middle school academy model will begin in the summer of 2010. Participants at the June 2010 Conference will contribute to an initial design based on activities in place in consortium districts.

Overall Grant Status

As of December 2009, Polk County consortium grant activities have proceeded essentially as expected. The only major challenge has been accessing student data from partnering districts. Project leaders anticipate that with the new state reporting process, consortium districts will be comfortable uploading their student data to the state. Polk County will then be able to access the data as required to determine growth in the number of students accessing a variety of choice option across the consortium.

The VPSC Year-Two End-of-Year Report provides detailed status statements on all grant outcomes to be achieved by September 2009. Those anticipated in October through December 2009 are updated in **Tables 2, 3 and 4** of this report.

Project Activities Tied to Polk County's VPSC Grant Outcomes with State Objectives to Include Local Performance to Date

Polk County's VPSC grant narrative presents specific outcomes to be achieved in relation to each of its two goals. **Tables 2, 3 and 4** correlate Polk County's goals and related outcomes to the State's Performance Measures. The status statements included within each table represent activities reported for Years 1 and 2 as well as an update to include activities through the first quarter of Year 3.

Table 2—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 1

State Objective 1. In target public school districts, increase the number of families that exercise inter-district public school choice.

- **State Measure 1a.** By the end of the second quarter in the inter-district agreement models planning period, 100% of the inter-district partnerships or multi-inter-district transfer partnerships will implement plans to create or expand school choice programs, particularly at middle or high schools, for operations to commence August 2009.
- **State Measure 1b.** By the end of the third quarter of the planning grant period, 100% of the inter-district and/or multi-inter-district partnerships that require transportation will have a transportation plan for inter-district students for selected school choice schools by August 2009.

Polk Goal #1: 1a—Review current choice offerings and transfer policies

Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County’s VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County’s VPSC Grant
<u>1.1.a</u> Contract to Marie Sneed (<i>Hire a consultant to review practices and make recommendations.</i>)	September 2008	All contract work has been completed with recommendations received.
<u>1.1.b</u> Model inter-local agreement (Develop a comprehensive master plan to move students among districts.)	May 2009	As of September 2008, inter-district agreements are in place to allow student transfers as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polk County to Osceola County • Osceola County to Polk County • Polk County to Hillsborough County • Hillsborough County to Polk County
<u>1.3.a</u> Submit inter-district transfer report to Coalition audience. (<i>Present an update on inter-district transfers at coalition choice summit.</i>)	October 2009, 2010 and 2011	On November 19, 2009, Polk County’s Sr. Director of Magnet, Choice and Charter Schools shared an annual report of Polk County’s VPSC grant with the coalition districts at the Florida Public School Choice Consortium. The report included a summary of inter-district transfers as well as a participation report of grant-sponsored training.
<u>1.3.b</u> Create and distribute policy and inter-district transfer agreements. (<i>Send each district copies of the modifications to district policy, model inter-district transfer agreements and other relevant documentation to facilitate replication.</i>)	August 2009	Polk has established contractual interdistrict agreements with New Dimensions High School and Four Corners Charter School in Osceola County. Students from low performing schools will have the opportunity to attend these higher performing schools through transfer. This will impact 450 students. Furthermore, informal interdistrict agreements have been signed with Hillsborough county allowing students to transfer over district lines. These interdistrict transfer policies and practices were discussed in terms of best practice at the June 16-18 training. Over 20 participants were at the session to discuss choice transfer options for students. Polk, Orange, Hillsborough, Manatee, Duval, Lake and Osceola County participated. Additionally,

Table 2—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 1

		evaluators from USF and the DOE interacted as districts discussed the benefits and challenges to choice.										
1.1.c District transportation plans with regards to choice, charter and Title I options <i>(Develop a transportation plan in each district to assure that transportation is not a barrier to choice enrollment.)</i>	March 2009	Polk County and Osceola County have worked together with the Four Corners Charter School to formalize an interdistrict transportation plan to transport Polk County students to Four Corners Charter School. Through VPSC funds, Polk County purchased a bus and is working closely with Four Corners Charter School to ensure transportation is not a barrier to Polk students attending this school through the interdistrict agreement beginning January 2010.										
<p>State Objective 1. In target public school districts, increase the number of families that exercise inter-district public school choice. (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Measure 1c. Increase the number of families that exercise public school choice via the inter-districts models by 2% each year after models’ implementation in August 2009, thus increasing overall number of student transfers by 6% at end of grant period. 												
Polk Goal #1: 1a—Review current choice offerings and transfer policies. (continued)												
Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County’s VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County’s VPSC Grant										
1.2.a Report of students transferring between Polk, Hillsborough and Osceola <i>(Evaluate effectiveness of current agreements with schools in Osceola and Hillsborough Counties.)</i>	November 2009	The number of students in Polk, Hillsborough and Osceola Counties who exercised school choice via the inter-district models to date for the 2009-2010 school year <i>(excluding those going from Polk to Osceola to access New Dimensions High School or Four Corners Charter School)</i> is as follows.										
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2009-2010</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Polk to Osceola</td> <td>266</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Osceola to Polk</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Polk to Hillsborough</td> <td>162</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hillsborough to Polk</td> <td>27</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2009-2010	Polk to Osceola	266	Osceola to Polk	13	Polk to Hillsborough	162	Hillsborough to Polk	27
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1.2.b Report of students moving between districts and their free-and-reduced-lunch status <i>(Formalize and prioritize student movement between districts to emphasize needs of high poverty students.)</i>	March 2010	Not yet applicable										
1.2.c Needs assessment including types of choice and barriers to choice <i>(Create and utilize a needs assessment to identify choices appealing to students and parents, barriers to accessing choices, and steps to overcome barriers.)</i>	May 2009, 2010 and 2011	Partnering districts were surveyed about the types of choice and common barriers to choice in their respective districts.										
1.2.d Marketing media to include but not be limited to brochures, videos and web based media <i>(Develop and disseminate marketing and information tools in multiple languages.)</i>	March 2010	Not yet applicable										
1.2.e Report of number and type of marketing information used <i>(Evaluate effectiveness of marketing and information tools.)</i>	March 2010, 2011, and 2012	Not yet applicable										

Table 2—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 1		
1.3.c Brochures, videos and other marketing tools <i>(Provide coalition members with brochures, videos and other marketing tools developed via this grant.)</i>	June 2009, 2010 and 2011	Brochure templates have been developed with input from the nine partnering districts marketing inter-district transfers and career academies.

Table 3—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 2	
<p>State Objective 2. In target communities, increase the number of families with children in lower-performing schools who transfer to higher-performing schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 2a. Number of school choice activities conducted for parents at targeted schools, specific to those schools that have failed to make AYP for two or more years, will be increased by 25% at the end of 2011. • State Measure 2b. From 2007 through 2011, training participation of community and parent volunteers at the School Choice Parent Resource Centers will increase by 30%. • State Measure 2c. By end of grant 25% more families at each School Choice Parent Resource Center operating under this grant will use personalized assistance in comfortable community settings with community volunteers and Public School choice staff. 	
Polk Goal: No Polk County VPSC goal addresses State measures 2a, 2b or 2c.	

Table 3—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 2		
<p>State Objective 2. In target communities, increase the number of families with children in lower-performing schools who transfer to higher-performing schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 2d. Increase number of student transfer applications to public school choice options in targeted lower-performing schools to higher-performing schools and/or programs by 2% in 2009, 3% each year after, totaling 11% gain in transfers by 2011. 		
Polk Goal #1: 1b—Provide training to promote high quality-high yield choice schools.		
Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County’s VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County’s VPSC Grant
1.b.1 Self assessment instrument data <i>(Complete self assessment instrument in each participating district.)</i>	June 2009	Partnering districts were surveyed about the types of choice and common barriers to choice in their respective districts.
1.b.2 Contract for specific, high yield training addressing key areas of improvement as identified <i>(Identify key areas of improvement in each district; plan and contract for training to address these areas.)</i>	June 2009	Polk has offered training sessions for choice, charter and career academy leaders. These training opportunities were offered in April and June of 2009.
1.b.3 Training program to include introductory, advanced and train-the-trainer models for district and school-based personnel <i>(Meet to share training results and develop a targeted training program.)</i>	June 2010, 2011, and 2012	Not yet applicable
Polk Goal #1: 1c—Offer a summit for choice staff, career academy instructors and charter authorizers to promote high quality-high yield programs		
Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County’s VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County’s VPSC Grant
1.c.1.a Enewsletters <i>(Take active roles in the central region of the FPSCC to include updates via the newsletter, presentations at meetings and serving in leadership roles.)</i>	October 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011	Enewsletters are maintained quarterly through the Florida Public School Choice Consortium via online newsletter link. (http://www.fpssc.net/newsletter/05polkvpssc.htm)

Table 3—Polk County's Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 2		
1.c.1.b Training for the north and south regions of the state to share online resources, tools and key learnings <i>(Provide training for the north and south regions to share resources and provide tools and key learnings.)</i>	June 2011 and 2012	Not yet applicable
1.c.1.c Agendas and sign-in sheets <i>(Present at state and national conferences to disseminate information.)</i>	March 2010, 2011, and 2012	Not yet applicable
1.c.2.a A self evaluation and needs assessment <i>(Share self evaluation and needs assessment materials developed and implemented through the project in summer workshops.)</i>	March 2009 and 2010	A self evaluation and needs assessment occurred April 23-24, 2009. Data from the districts were shared through a collaborative forum. Partnering districts were surveyed about the types of choice and common barriers to choice in their respective districts.
1.c.2.b Agendas, curriculum maps and models <i>(Focus workshop strands during years 3 and 4 on teacher training resources available via the career academy model and implementation of inter-district transfer agreements, transportation options and solutions as well as authorizer intervention plans.)</i>	June 2010	Not yet applicable
1.c.2.c Agendas <i>(Focus training strands in years 4 and 5 on high yield strategies to recruit and retain students, particularly high need students.)</i>	June 2011 and 2012	Not yet applicable
1.c.2.d Agendas <i>(Continue workshops beyond proposal funding period.)</i>	June 2013	Not yet applicable
1.c.3.a A web address and hard copy print material as applicable to site, training or material <i>(Coordinate information and web based offerings.)</i>	December 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012	www.fpssc.net/vpsc/index.htm contains Voluntary Public School Choice data and print material from summer trainings and presenters.
Polk Goal #2: 2—Create a comprehensive, sequential model for the development and implementation of career academies.		
Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County's VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County's VPSC Grant
2.1.a Implementation plan <i>(Create a detailed implementation plan for academies to include</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academy types • Locations • Recruitment of students • Development of intra and inter district choice options • An application system and process by district) 	August 2009	<p>The June 2009 Conference was used to initiate the discussion required to create a career academy implementation plan. Thirty-six participants from five consortium districts participated in career academy sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations were made from representatives of multiple program areas (academy types). • Attendees heard strategies for establishing academies. • Polk County also presented its recruitment strategies and the online application process being piloted in the county. Updated sessions will be offered in June 2010. • Intra district application processes are being formalized in Polk County and will be shared with other districts at the end of the 2009-2010 school year. <p>Since the June Conference, Polk County has established 16 concepts to be evidenced in all its career academies. Hillsborough representatives participated in sessions with Polk County school personnel in which the list of concepts was finalized. Hillsborough</p>

Table 3—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 2		
		and Osceola representatives will be invited to a winter conference in Polk in which best practices related to these concepts will be shared. All consortium districts will participate in sessions regarding these concepts in June 2010.
<u>2.1.b</u> Participant roster for career academy staff attending a week-long summer curriculum mapping workshop <i>(Send career academy teachers to a summer curriculum mapping workshop.)</i>	June 2010	Not yet applicable
<u>2.1.c</u> Participant roster for career academy staff attending a week-long summer curriculum mapping workshop <i>(Schedule an additional summer institute to refine curriculum maps and focus on additional career academy models lacking maps or training.)</i>	June 2011	Not yet applicable
<u>2.1.d</u> Participant roster for career academy staff attending a week-long summer curriculum mapping workshop <i>(Create additional curriculum maps for new academies, refine existing maps, and offer introductory instructional strategies for professionals new to the career academy model.)</i>	June 2011 and 2012	Not yet applicable
<u>2.1.e</u> Career Academy Cadre list of at least five representatives from respective districts to total a group of 50 <i>(Identify and train a select and dedicate cadre of professionals from each district to spearhead the continued development and implementation of curriculum maps and instructional strategies.)</i>	June 2012	Not yet applicable
<u>2.2.a</u> List of participants for computer conference <u>2.2.b</u> List of best practices and issues for discussion from participating districts <i>(Share a written best practice and a challenge or issue with group during the winter meeting via computer conferencing.)</i>	December 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012	2.2a-A formal computer conference has not been implemented to date. 2.2.b-Through December 2009 FACSAs meeting committees were developed to include the best practices in the following areas: new application and appeal process, charter renewal and termination process, legal and contract, and district processes and procedures. Eight of the nine partnering districts are members of these committees.
<u>2.3</u> Hard copy of website and bulletin board including web address or link <i>(Coordinate with FPSCC to maintain a web based bulletin board.)</i>	April 2009	www.fpssc.net/vpsc/index.htm contains Voluntary Public School Choice data and print material from summer trainings and presenters.

Table 4—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 3
<p>State Objective 3. Increase the methods to improve capacity, parental involvement and academic significance for choice public school initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 3a. Increase membership of Parent Advisory Councils by 25 memberships the first year with an increase of 10% each year thereafter, resulting in an increased of involvement at School Choice Parent Resource Centers (SCPRC) sites and the number of volunteer attendance at trainings. • State Measure 3b. For each year of the grant, the attendance of Parent Advisory Council members at all FPSCC events will increase by 5% each year, totaling 25% by the end of the grant in 2011. • State Measure 3c. By 2011, the Parent Advisory Council and the parent volunteers at the SCPRC sites will collaboratively develop and produce a publication to provide technical assistance and guidance to parents on statewide school choice policies and issues that will be distributed at all SCPRC sites.

Table 4—Polk County's Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 3

- State Measure 3d. By 2011, students who participate in the school choice inter-district models will show an overall average increase of 2% in FCAT reading and math scores.

Polk Goal: Polk County's VPSC Grant does not address State Measures 3a, 3b, 3c or 3d.

Marketing/Dissemination Plans for Year 3 with First Quarter Activities

The following are strategies used to market choice options to the students of Polk County:

1. A public relations consultant has been used to develop informational brochures that explain inter-district transfer options. These brochures are available in Polk, Osceola and Hillsborough County. With this information, parents have instructions on how to apply for an inter-district transfer, who to contact in the respective district and the benefits of attending a higher performing school.
2. A public relations consultant has been used to develop informational brochures that explain career academies. These brochures outline the application process, academy focuses and the high schools at which they are located. The brochure has been templated by design and will be offered to the other eight participating districts so they may tailor the template for their use.
3. Inter-district transfer forms are available online through the Polk, Osceola, and Hillsborough County websites.

Project Evaluation Activities for Year 3, First Quarter

During the October through December 2009 grant quarter, project personnel and the external evaluator have worked with Polk County career academy personnel and with schools to establish the importance of having all district career academy students accurately flagged. By mid January 2010, Polk County will be prepared to upload all its current career academy students when instructed to do so. Other students to be uploaded in January include those in three additional categories:

- Students occupying new 2008-2009 and fall 2009 choice and charter seats created through or influenced by VPSC training will be reported. These are new Middle Years Program (MYP) choice seats and all new charter seats approved through the new renewal process.
- Individuals who transferred from Polk County schools to either New Dimensions High School or Four Corners Charter School during the 2008-2009 school year and during the fall of 2009 will be uploaded.
- Students who accessed the inter-district choice option to go from a Polk County school to a Hillsborough County school or to an Osceola County school other than New Dimensions and Four Corners during the fall of 2009 will also be uploaded.

Polk County will continue to report students in the categories listed above as requested to do so. Additionally, Polk County grant staff members are also prepared to work with partnering districts to clarify reporting requirements as the grant moves into its third year.

Year Three Evaluation Activities tied to Grant-Funded Training

During year three of its VPSC grant, Polk County's evaluation activities will report **1)** training activities funded through the grant, **2)** the number and type of participants from each partnering district who attend each activity, **3)** summaries of evaluations submitted by training participants at each event, and **4)** both the number and the lists of students by category (choice, charter, and career academy) whose learning experiences are influenced by the training activities.

Polk County will also report all students accessing the inter-district transfer option to transfer from low performing schools in Polk County to either New Dimensions High School or Four Corners Charter School in Osceola County.

Reporting Students Touched by Training Events

During the first quarter of this year, project staff and the project's external evaluator specified how students touched by VPSC training activities are to be identified and reported. **Table 5** lists projected training activities by category and students to be reported for each. A summary of student numbers will be reported in the end-of-year project report. Student identifiers will be uploaded to the Florida DOE when appropriate.

Table 5: Planned Year Three VPSC Training Events and Students to be reported by Category

Category	Events	Students to be Reported
Choice Schools	The January 2010 training event will engage district office staff from partnering districts in planning training activities to be held in April 2010 for school leaders and in June 2010 for teachers. The focus of training will be on sharing best practices and improving both recruitment and teaching strategies in choice schools.	As part of all three events, Polk County district staff will describe each district's responsibility for reporting students who benefit directly from grant activities. As of June 2010, categories of students to be reported from each district and/or school will be identified.
Charter Schools	Charter leaders from each of the coalition districts will meet in January, April and June 2010 in a continuing effort to create uniform processes, requirements and contracts to be used with both new and renewing charter schools.	Each district will be required to submit student identifiers attached to all new charter seats in the district.
Career Academies	One career academy training event will be held in June 2010. Polk County will present the 16 concepts created during the summer and fall of 2009 to align Polk's career academy definition with that of Florida's CAPE definition. Both district and school personnel from all participating districts will share academy best practices.	As part of the training event, participants will list the groups of career academy students who will benefit from the training and whose identifiers will be uploaded in the fall of 2010. Polk County will report all of its career academy students.